

Americans for Democratic Action (ADA).  
 Americans for Religious Liberty.  
 Americans United for Separation of Church and State (AU).  
 Association for Career and Technical Education.  
 Baptist Joint Committee.  
 Brain Injury Association of America.  
 Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Training.  
 Campaign for America's Future.  
 Center for Community Change.  
 Communications Workers of America (CWA).  
 Council of State Administrators for Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR).  
 Easter Seals.  
 Equal Partners in Faith.  
 Goodwill Industries.  
 Institute for America's Future.  
 Interfaith Alliance.  
 International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.  
 International Brotherhood of Teamsters.  
 International Union of Painters and Allied Trades.  
 National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.  
 National Alliance For Partnerships in Equity.  
 National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium.  
 National Association of State Head Injury Administrators.  
 National Council of Jewish Women.  
 National Education Association.  
 National Employment Law Project.  
 National Head Start Association.  
 National Immigration Law Center.  
 National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty.  
 National League of Cities.  
 National Organization for Women.  
 National Rehabilitation Association (NRA).  
 National WIC Association.  
 National Women's Law Center.  
 NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby.  
 OMB Watch.  
 Paralyzed Veterans of America.  
 Patient Alliance for Neuroendocrine-immune Disorders; Organization for Research and Advocacy.  
 Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Union.  
 Professional Employees Department, AFL-CIO.  
 Protestants for the Common Good.  
 Service Employees International Union (SEIU).  
 The Arc of the U.S..  
 United Cerebral Palsy.  
 Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.  
 United Auto Workers (UAW).  
 United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries.  
 United Mineworkers of America.  
 United Steelworkers of America.  
 USAction.  
 Welfare Law Center.  
 Wider Opportunities for Women.  
 Women Employed.  
 Women Work! The National Network for Women's Employment.  
 YWCA USA.  
 9 to 5, National Association of Working Women.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts for yielding me this time, and I rise to oppose this rule to H.R. 27, the Workforce Investment Act. The gentleman from Ohio, the chairman of the committee

on which I serve, is correct. The Workforce Investment Act has been successful. The renewal that is proposed to us today, however, is a step backwards; and we will hear a great deal about that.

There were amendments that were proposed that have not been made in order. These amendments would have created a separate authorization for infrastructure funding for one-stop centers, would have struck the provisions regarding personal reemployment accounts. There was an amendment that would have struck the provisions to consolidate the funding of adult, dislocated worker and employment service; and an amendment that I would like to address at this moment that I offered that would have increased the authorization by \$750 million for job training programs under the Workforce Investment Act.

Between fiscal year 2002 and fiscal year 2006, Mr. Speaker, funding for the Workforce Investment Act has been reduced by three-quarters of a billion dollars. This is for a program that works. But the funding has been reduced. My amendment would have restored this funding. However, the Committee on Rules did not see fit to accept the amendment. At a time when there are 7.7 million people unemployed, not counting those who have fallen off the rolls, 4.5 million working part-time because they cannot find a full-time job that they need, we should be doing more. Through the one-stop delivery system, job seekers have access to labor market information, job counseling, and job training to help them get back on their feet.

Back in 1998 when this bill, this program, was first passed, David Broder wrote an article. He said: When Senator Paul Wellstone walked off the floor arm in arm with Senator MIKE DEWINE of Ohio, bipartisan I should point out, Paul Wellstone said, "MIKE, this may not be the lead story on the network news, but it's a good piece of work." Well, indeed it was not the lead story on the network news.

David Broder reports, It was hard to find a trace of their bill. The news at that time was overwhelmed, overtaken by scandals. But as says Broder, In communities less consumed by scandal than Washington, the impact of the measure that DEWINE and Wellstone and others had fashioned may be felt in real lives long after the memories of the scandals have faded. In a dynamic economy where technological changes and market shifts are forcing layoffs of some people even as other jobs are being created, the key is to equip workers with needed skills and then link them efficiently to the vacancies.

That is what this legislation is intended to do. It should be authorized at a greater amount. Said Broder back then, The workers will never know the names of the legislators, but they are in their debt.

Unfortunately, the workers who do not get to take advantage of this pro-

gram because it is underfunded will never know what they have missed, and we have let them down. We should oppose this rule, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield 8 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS).

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I urge the body to adopt this rule and to pass the bill.

I will be addressing just one particular topic which has been controversial in committee discussions and will be the subject of an amendment later on, and that is turning the clock back on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and changing what it says. Those who are opposed to this bill on that ground believe that somehow it is wrong to allow religious institutions to receive Federal funds for programs that benefit the public at large, are not restricted to people of particular faith but are operated by organizations that are religiously based.

I have listened carefully to the debate in the committee. We have had this same debate several times in committee. I have yet to understand precisely what the objections are, but it seems that opponents are afraid of two things: one, that this provision in the bill somehow will allow these organizations to discriminate on other grounds in their hiring, which is, first, contrary to the Civil Rights Act, and second, I would say religious organizations are the least likely to discriminate on the basis of race or any of the other forbidden categories.

The other objection appears to be that somehow these churches are going to use this Federal money to try to proselytize, to get people in these programs and then they will say, okay, now isn't this wonderful, you should join this church.

I would like to say, that is also not true. It just does not happen. I can speak from my personal experience. When my wife and I moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 1966 to take on a new position, we looked for a church. In fact, we spent 3 months trying out different churches, looking, trying to find a certain something: we wanted a church in the inner city because we wanted to be able to contribute to solving the problems of the city of Grand Rapids, particularly in the inner city.

And so we joined Eastern Avenue Christian Reformed Church because of its location and because of the attitude of its people. They worked very hard in the community. As an example, they established a community center. There was none at that time either federally funded, State funded, or city funded. The church stepped in and started it. It was on the top story of a ramshackle building which housed a small convenience store in the lower floor. It grew slowly at first, but then took off. Today it is a large community center, one of the best, if not the best, in the city. They purchased a school which was being abandoned, filled up that